GR8T Mates- mentoring program through SIP.

School Name: BLAXLAND HIGH SCHOOL

STW Coordinator: BOB COLEMAN

	School Initiative
Key Result Area connection (background)	**Mentoring Program** • The mentoring program has been trialled in Term 4 2007 and we need to ensure its life in 2008. This links directly to State Key Result Area of Exploring Careers Futures, focuses on engaging and connection with school
Initiative outline	• To link boys and girls in Year 9 who are disengaging from school with a trained adult community member. This gives students opportunities to explore careers, personal interests, maintain a weekly one hour session with mentors and to develop career related plans with mentors
Who supports and organises implementation?	• Principal • Careers Adviser • Year 9 Year Adviser • Penrith, Blue Mountains Schools Industry Partnership
Highlight student and/or school outcomes	• To re-engage students by linking a trained adult mentor from the local community to each targeted student • Improved retention at school • Broader career related opportunities • Develop and fine tune personalised career plans • All students gain a School Certificate; minimise the risk of early departure from the school setting
2008 Enhancements	• Train additional mentors • Identify more accurately students as risk of leaving school early • Interview targeted students for career and personal interests • Create a more accurate match between mentors and mentees

2008 Financial allocation being applied for (budget)	• Course costs for training and registering additional mentors with TAFE 5 x $100: **$500** • 2 days teacher relief for targeting and interviewing students, liaison with Schools Industry Partnership and potential work placement hosts. 2 x $280: **$560** • **$100** catering for mentors and mentees • **NB Blaxland High School has met all costs with the trail in 2007**